

Amendment to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [015] with the following amended paragraph:

[015.1] As shown in Fig. 1, maxillofacial anchoring and distraction system 10 made in accordance with a first preferred embodiment of the invention comprises an externally threaded anchoring screw or distraction fixture 12 and a selected (short, as shown) length jack screw 14 similar to anchoring screw 12 and jack screw 16 disclosed in the above referenced patent, along with a bone screw 16. Bone screw 16 is formed with an external self-tapping bone screw thread 16a and a standard drive bone screw head 16b. A cut-away flat surface portion 16c is formed in the self-tapping screw thread 16a of screw 16, as by machining, preferably in the center of the longitudinal length of the thread, so that when lined up perpendicularly with the alveolar distraction fixture 12, as shown in the drawing, the flat surface portion serves as a reaction surface for jack screw 14 to distract against. To assure appropriate alignment of the cut-away flat surface index portion 16c relative to the distraction fixture 12 and jack screw 14, bone screw 16 is formed, as by milling, with a flat surface index portion 16d formed on the otherwise circular outer periphery of head 16b. Head 16b is referenced, angularly aligned and driven with appropriate mating driver tools (not shown). To further assist in the exact placement of screw 16 relative to distraction fixture 12, an external drilling template that engages a coronal hexagonal portion 12a of distraction fixture 12 can be used. Additionally, as shown in Fig. 1, cut-away flat surface portion 16c extends in length preferably over twice the diameter of distal end 14a of jack screw 14 to allow for thickness variations in patients; cortical bone plates. To further assure the rigid and stable engagement of the bony segment for distraction, bone screw 16 is designed in multiple lengths to accommodate variations in bony plate dimensions. Once distraction and callus healing is complete, the threaded cut-away bone screw can be removed during the removal of distraction fixture 12 or left in place in accordance with the physician's requirements. Thus in cases where there is insufficient bone height or stability to use a normal base plug, the cut-away bone screw serves as the base plug to resist and transfer the downward distraction force from the distraction jack screw. The cut-away bone screw engages the

cortical plates of the attached apical bone stock allowing the freed coronal subperiosteal ~~corticotomy~~ corticotomy segment to distract against the distraction jack screw. Use of the distraction bone screw results in a rigid stabilization of remaining bone stock for distraction as well as in the decrease in the required bone height needed for distraction by up to 3 to 4 millimeters.